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NEWS.

PROFESSOR DR. FRANZ VON HÖHNEL has left Vienna on a journey to Brazil.

SYNTHETIC cassia oil, introduced by Schimmel & Co. of Leipzig, is gradually displacing the ordinary cassia oil of commerce.

A PLANT of *Cypripedium insigne giganteum* from the collection of the late Major Mason, recently sold in London by auction, brought £147, and other varieties from £30 to £76. The total amount realized at the sale was over £3000.

THE HERBARIUM of the Geological Survey of Canada has recently been enriched by Professor Macoun's collections from Sable Island, by Mr. A. P. Low's from northern Labrador and the coasts and islands of Hudson's bay; by Mr. J. B. Tyrrell's from the Yukon district; and by Mr. N. B. Sanson's from the vicinity of Banff.

A COURSE for teachers, consisting of studies in ecology and plant physiology with excursions and practice, was conducted during the autumn by Professor C. Stuart Gager, of the New York State Normal College at Albany. The syllabus shows a refreshing appreciation of the modern aspect of botany, "considering plants from a dynamic rather than a static point of view."

THE ACREAGE in peppermint in Wayne county, New York, one of the chief centers of the crop, has fallen from 3340 acres in 1890 to 300 in 1899, on account of low prices of the oil and the better returns to farmers from growing sugar beets. In Michigan the exports of peppermint oil rose from 80,225 lbs. in 1894 to 162,492 lbs. in 1897, but are now falling, being 145,375 lbs. in 1898.

WITH THE CLOSE of volume II Messrs. Willard N. Clute & Co. cease to publish *The Plant World*. It will hereafter be published by The Plant World Company, 321 4½ street, Washington, D.C. The first number of volume III will be that for January 1900, thus leaving a gap from October to December 1899 inclusive. The journal still remains under the editorial direction of Dr. F. H. Knowlton. The new volume will be more fully illustrated and nearly doubled in size, but with the same subscription price. The journal has proved very useful, and we bespeak for it the fuller success it deserves.